

REMARKS

Claims 2 - 6, 8, 9, 14 - 16, 18 - 20 and 22 - 43 are now presented for examination. Claim 1 is cancelled, with the result that claims 1, 7, 10 - 13, 17, and 21 have now been cancelled. New claim 43 has been added. Claims 2 - 6, 14 - 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, and 38 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 19, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38, and 43 are independent.

In the Office Action, all claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Independent claims 19, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 38 and 43 have been amended or added to clarify the invention and to distinguish it over the prior art of record. Claims dependent upon these independent claims recite additional limitations which, in conformity with the features of their corresponding independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested by the art of record. The dependent claims are therefore believed patentable. However, for the reasons stated below, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to clarify the defined terminology used in the specification, and the claims have been amended to use such terminology. The amendment to the specification does not add new matter, but corrects a typographical error that occurred when parentheses were inadvertently used to offset a definition of a physical component ("user devices") instead of commas. As amended, it is clear that "user devices" are a physical component, and do not constitute an alternative term for "SMS devices." As used consistently throughout the specification, "SMS devices" constitute a gateway between a wireless network and the internet, and does not include a "network bridge," which is defined as a connection between a short message service

center (SMSC) and the internet. By using "SMS devices" to send SMS messages between networks, users are able to avoid having their messages pass through network bridges, which are proprietary to each network, and which present real time obstacles to the timely, efficient, and inexpensive delivery of SMS messages.

No cited prior art, and no prior art known to applicants, uses SMS devices to bypass proprietary network bridges when SMS messages are being sent between wireless networks. The claims now claim the system and method for sending SMS messages out of or into wireless networks using SMS devices, and also encompass the transmission and receipt of SMS messages from or to computers connected to the internet. Routing for all SMS messages of the invention is contained in one or more servers attached to the internet, or may be supplemented with routing and identification information maintained in one or more SMS devices.

For all of the above reasons, the claim objections are believed to have been overcome placing all remaining claims in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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